

The paragraph beginning at page 7, after line 3 insert:

A² SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The paragraph beginning at page 9, after line 18 insert:

A³ BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The paragraph beginning at page 11, after line 13 insert:

A⁴ DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please insert the following new Abstract presented on a separate sheet attached to this response.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

Please cancel claims 1-12, 21-30, 37, 40, 41, 42, 44 and 45 without prejudice.

13. (Amended) A fastener for securing a tube to a patient, comprising a sleeve of variable length capable when lengthened of gripping the tube.

A⁵ 14. (Amended) A fastener according to claim 13, wherein the sleeve when shortened is capable of sliding along the tube.

94 32. (Amended) A fastener according to claim 31, wherein an opening is capable of permitting the tube to pass through the wall of the sleeve.

97 36. (Amended) A fastener comprising a sleeve of variable length capable when lengthened of gripping a tube for the purpose of securing the tube to a patient.

98 38. (Twice Amended) In combination, a tube to be secured to a patient and a fastener as defined in claim 13.

39. (Twice Amended) In combination, a fastener as defined in claim 13 and instructions for its use in securing a tube to a patient.